

Applicants note that noted document (2) was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on August 18, 2005. Thus, a copy of this document is not provided herewith.

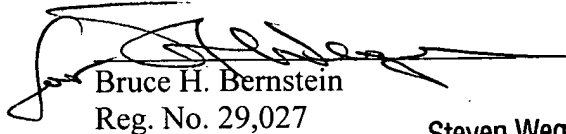
Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), a copy of the U.S. Patent Publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of above-noted international document (1) is attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. A copy of the European Search Report is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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